

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 4 , 8 and 11 are currently being canceled.

Claims 1 and 7 are currently being amended. In particular, the features of now-canceled claim 4 have been incorporated into claim 1, and the features of now-canceled claim 8 have been incorporated into claim 7.

Claims 12 and 13 are currently being added.

This amendment adds, cancels and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12 and 13 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections:

In the Office Action, claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,885,085 to Fujita in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,615,186 to Kolls. This rejection is traversed with respect to the presently pending claims, for at least the reasons given below.

With respect to claim 1, which now includes the features of canceled claim 4, that claim recites that each of the plurality of communication devices is provided with a directional antenna directed to the car to allow wireless communication using a small-power or weak radio wave. As explained in paragraph 0025 of the published application, "both the user terminal 102 and the wireless communication device 30 are allowed to reduce in size, price and power consumption."

It is noted that the Office Action does not specifically address the features of claim 4 in its rejection of claims 1-11. Fujita discloses a signal receiving section 7 and a signal transmitting section 8, which communicate with a command device 12 operated by a user inside a vehicle. As disclosed in column 4, lines 4-9 of Fujita, the signal receiving section 7 receives commands as "infrared signals" as sent by the command device 12. As disclosed in column 4, lines 19-23 of Fujita, the signal transmitting section 8 sends karaoke signals to a car radio audio apparatus 41 in the passenger car 40.

There is no disclosure or suggestion in Fujita that his signal transmitting section 8 and his signal receiving section 7 utilize directional antennas to communicate with devices within the vehicle parked in the parking space adjacent to those sections 7, 8.

Accordingly, since Kolls does not rectify this shortcoming in Fujita, presently pending independent claim 1 is patentable over the combined teachings of these two references.

With respect to claim 7, which now includes the features of now-canceled claim 8, that claim recites that the Internet connection request includes an identification number that has been uniquely assigned to a user of the user terminal. While it is not argued that Figure 21 and column 57, line 50 to column 58, line 36 of Kolls describes the use of biometric data provided by the user within a vehicle in order to determine whether or not the user is allowed to access an Internet, this is not the same as the user providing an identification number in an Internet connection request (which is used to authenticate the user).

Accordingly, since Fujita does not rectify the above-mentioned shortcomings of Kolls, presently pending independent claim 7 is patentable over the combined teachings of these two references.

The presently pending dependent claims are patentable due to their dependence on either claim 1 or claim 7, as discussed above, as well as for the specific features recited in those dependent claims. For example, claim 6 recites

that the parking lot is an indoor parking lot, wherein each of the plurality of communication devices is provided on a ceiling of the indoor parking lot. It is noted that the Office Action did not specifically address the features of claim 6 in its rejection of claims 1-11. It is noted that Fujita and Kolls both are directed to outdoor parking lots, whereby it is submitted that one skilled in the art would utilize the same "pole" structure of Fujita and Kolls for use in an indoor parking lot. To argue otherwise would be to incorrectly perform hindsight reconstruction of the invention as recited in claim 6, which of course is not a proper basis for rejecting that claim.

Accordingly, dependent claim 6 is patentable for this additional reason, beyond those given above for its base claim.

New Claims:

New claims 12 and 13 have been added, whereby these new claims are believed to recite features that are not disclosed, taught or suggested by the combined teachings of the cited art of record, when taken as a whole.

Conclusion:

Since there are no other objections or rejections raised in the Office Action that have not been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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